

Beverly Nov 26th 1841.

My Dear Miss Weston,

I have written twice, if not thrice, since my residence in this Asiatic region. I have received your letter from you, & I must do you the justice to say that it was as long as all mine put together. Nevertheless I have been a good deal disappointed in not hearing further from you. I know there is a great difficulty in getting letters to this out-of-the-way part of the world, but I am now able to relieve you from trouble on that score. My young brother Charles, has lately gone to Boston. He is in the store of Mr H. Blackfield, 54 Kilby St., & any thing for me put into his hands, will arrive in due time. Having thus pointed out the way of sending, I shall hold you altogether inexcusable if you neglect to write. You may know or may not know. That previous to leaving Boston, I put into the hands of Mr Collins, agent of your Anti Slavery Society. The stereotypic plates of my two books "Archy Moore" & "Disputation in America" under an agreement by which the Anti Slavery was to print & sell the same, & Collins made very great promise as to the number of copies he should be able to dispose of. Now the less, I have received the accounts down to last spring. That is for our year, during which he had sold only 70 copies. A biggish account of empty boxes nearly. I have a mind to try a rather novel method of advertising, if you or any one by your procurement, will assist me therein. I have about 150 copies of Archy Moore, printed before I entered into the agreement with Collins, & my idea is to distribute the same to the slave holding members of Congress. They should be done up separately in strong wrappers, directed each to the member for whom it is intended, sent on to Washington by Hurdin's express or otherwise, & put into the post office there, by which their distribution among the members might be insured without trouble. If anybody chooses to undertake the trial of this experiment upon



The views of the honorable members. The books can be had for that purpose by application to my brother as above. I should prefer to have made the southern gentlemen a present of any other book, but I have no copies of that to spare. Now unless I think "Crazy Shove" will answer well enough for a mere experiment. In fact, like all novelties, it is more likely to be read than the other books.

I never have heard any thing of the adventures of Mrs Chapman in the island of Hayti, though I fully expected that a book would be forthcoming on that subject. This climate still continues to suit me very well. In fact it is only since I have been here that I have known what it is to be well. Not that I have been altogether well, for during the last summer, owing to some indisposition, I got sick, & had a despatch time enough of it for a week or two. It was not however fever, but that same disorder of indigestion & general lassitude to which I was subject at home.

I sent last Spring to Mrs Wheeler, two Mrs Matheis, host of my work to be entitled "Principles of the Inductive Science of Man"; & I requested him, to send them to you among others. My progress in this composition was interrupted by the return of which I have mentioned, & also by the necessity of making some historical investigations towards settling certain points of inquiry which had arisen. However I have the thing again on the anvil, & in due time, shall beat it into shape. I am a more experimental enquirer. I pay no attention to what I have been taught, except so far as my own experiments confirm it. I do not suffer any wishes to run away with my judgment. It is my object to investigate & expound human nature as it is, not as I <sup>or Man</sup> might desire it to be; and as this is now a quite untrodden path, I may hope to gather therein some harvest, not perhaps in the estimation of the present age, but certainly of the next. For ~~certainly~~ I have studied history in vain, if many palpable signs do not indicate that we now are on the verge of a great revolution of opinions, which soon must come. The philosophers of the last age, with admirable courage, & zeal, though with defect, we knowledge, attacked by rap & ruin, by battery, & assault, the existing opinions of their day. As these opinions gave way, the institution

for \$80,000 with -



our social arrangements of those times which were founded & built upon those opinions, gone away also, and the alone was raised by priests & aristocrats, in which they were joined by many frightened minor philosophers. That universal ruin would ensue, a nation as always happens, in such cases, ~~followed~~. The garrison rallied, and though in the contest great host of the bulwarks & walls were destroyed, the priest & aristocrats still succeeded in beating back their opponents for the time, & holding the reins of their former strength. That reaction is now over. Again the assaults on advancing, with equal zeal, & greater knowledge. The struggle may be hard, but it will be final. For my part, I ~~shall~~ prefer to advance on the forlorn hope. To perish in the breach in the assault upon tyranny & error, is not the worst death, a man might die.

I sent you some time ago, a newspaper containing a Report, by the recent stipendiary Magistrate, upon the state of the laboring population in certain districts of this colony. If you have received it, you will find it a very interesting document, & containing decisive proofs that the black people here, within a very moderate period, will become the lords of the soil, <sup>here</sup> ~~in this colony~~. When that event occurs, the time has plenty of the colony will begin. I say the black people in contradistinction to the whites & the colored, for you must be aware that the colored people that is the mulattoes & form in the West Indies as soon as distinct, as the whites, & one which portends fully of all kinds of white prejudices. The colored people have had the double disadvantage of a caste & a color, and of an equivocal position. They are a sort of upstart to the whites. The blacks will supersede them both. In the United States where the colored & the black are forced together, the difference between them does not strike you much. Here, on the contrary, it is quite as noticeable as that between the blacks & the whites, while the difference between the colored & the white appears trivial in comparison. These two classes pass into each other by insensible degrees, indeed you will see children of the same family coming through all the gradations from that of a dark mulatto up to a light master hardly distinguishable from the pure white. There are the children of mulattoes proven by husbands of different colors. There is a great deal of beauty among the colored women, & some of them have been sent home & educated they are very

# since that Report was made without consulting the laboring population in the same vicinity, now dismissed from the colony for \$480,000 with -



fascinating. Their features & eyes are most lovely fine. Those of them  
 who have money, find not the least difficulty in getting white  
 husbands of respectable rank in society. Indeed several of the  
 principal persons in the colony have white wives. They were origi-  
 nally, <sup>at least all the older of them</sup> not white, but in the person of the colony, "housekeepers," but  
 some fifteen years ago, an old catholic Dutch planter by name Kraemer  
 who had a large family of colored children set the example of marry-  
 ing their mother, & although a great outcry was raised against him  
 at first, the example has since been very generally followed, & the colored  
 women of respectability now visit upon marriage. A particular friend of  
 mine, a young Indian, is married to one of the Kraemers' colored daughter-  
 less, & has two very beautiful children. - There is hardly a white person  
 born in the colony who has not a number of colored brothers & sisters, & the  
 old Dutch planters whose estates are quite patriarchal - though but very few are  
 more happy than have a family of some ten or twenty of all colors, living together  
 in good harmony. But you see the street is full. Truly yours friend R. Hildreth.

R. Hildreth

1841

Miss Caroline Weston -

care of Henry Chapman

Boston. Mass.

N. S. of America.

SHIP



Via St. Thomas

Ms. A. 2. 2. 15. 27